

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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THE DOMINION.

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Mr. Ruddick Returns to His First Love.

On this page we give a lifelike portrait from a recent photograph of Mr. J. A. Ruddick, who has just returned to Canada to take a position in the dairy branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, after an absence of two years in New Zealand, where he occupied the position of Dairy Commissioner. His retirement was due to the ill-health of Mrs. Ruddick on that Island and the offer of a tempting position in the public dairy service at Ottawa. We notice by the New Zealand Mail, that prior to his departure he was tendered a complimentary farewell banquet, at which it was stated that he took with him the good wishes of every dairymen in the country. On that occasion he was presented by the New Zealand Dairy Factory Managers' Association with a beautifully embossed and illuminated address enclosed in a case made of New Zealand wood, expressing very great regret at his departure and referring to the gratifying success which had attended his untiring efforts in advancing the dairy interest. Acknowledgment was specially made of the benefits derived by those engaged in this industry there from his fine experience, sound sense, and valuable advice, while the high reputation which their dairy products stand in Britain is a credit due to his efforts to remove obstacles which stood in their way as regards the production, preparation, and shipment and distribution of those products. 50 members of his staff escorted him to the wharf, and a large number of people gathered along with him to see him off. He responded to the cheering and

The Institute Meetings.

The series of Institute meetings held in June and the first week of July appear to have called out rather slim attendance. Probably the disheartening crop conditions existing at the time had a good deal to do with the partial failure. At some points the notice given had not been long enough. However, as this series is in a sense an inaugural one, introducing a new system whereby the Agricultural Societies are to take over the work of the Institutes, better things may be hoped for in future.

SOUTHERN MANITOBA.

The speakers in Southern Manitoba along the Deloraine branch were Mr. D. Munro and Rev. W. A. Burman. Meetings were held at 9 points. The attendance has generally been small, partly owing, perhaps, to the notice having been so short. Mr. Munro spoke on dairy farming and fodder crops; Mr. Burman, on soil moisture, weeds and insects.

At Deloraine the meeting was very small, but some few ardent spirits had come several miles to be present, and appeared to be greatly interested. Several specimens of Rocky Mountain locust were found three miles south of the town, but very little damage is reported. Crops have suffered greatly from drought as elsewhere, and many will be a complete failure. Some, however, bid fair to give a moderate yield under the influence of recent rains.

At Boissevain, Mr. McQuade, the energetic secretary, took the chair. The attendance of farmers was small, but the presence of a number of senior scholars from the public school gave a fair sized audience and added interest to the meeting. It is a pity this practice is not more common. The attendance at such meetings of our boys and girls could not but be beneficial to them.

Killarney. Notices not having been sent out here, it was not until late in the afternoon that a



MR. J. A. RUDDICK.

small company was got together, when they were addressed by Mr. Munro alone. As considerable attention is being given to stock-raising here, his theme was very appropriate, and seemed to be fully appreciated by those present.

Cartwright. Good arrangements had been made here. A meeting of the Agricultural Society was held, with a fair attendance. The President, Mr. McKenzie, took the chair. A good discussion followed the addresses. Next morning the annual plowing match was held on the farm of Mr. Ganby. The competition was very keen and great interest was manifested. Such gatherings must be very useful to the farming community.

Crystal City gave a small but interested audience, the President of the F. Institute in the chair. Considerable discussion followed, especially on the fodder question which is this year assuming very serious importance.

At Pilot Mound but little interest was evinced. Perhaps the slim attendance was due to the meeting being in the evening. The meeting was not a failure, yet it scarcely reflected credit on the agriculturalists of Pilot Mound.

Wanless. The meeting here was on Saturday evening; Mr. W. Baldwin, President, in the chair. Music was furnished by the piper, Brown. The attendance was about 25. There was some interest manifested, but here again there seems need of activity if the meetings are to really be of use.

Manitowish. There was a fair attendance, though the day, being a public holiday (Dominion Day), was not propitious. For this Mr. Gilchrist, the energetic secretary, deserves all credit. Though the number was small, yet it promised good fruit in increased interest in the subjects discussed by the speakers.

Neepawa. A small meeting at the T. Hart House, Mr. Simpson in the chair. The attendance was

small, men deeply concerned in the matters referred to.

Regarding the series of meetings generally, it may be said that the subjects assigned the speakers are very live subjects in the district covered. Dairying and fodder crops were never of such vital importance there as this year, and it is quite clear that the districts having cattle, hogs, etc., will this year have the advantage. As to conservation of moisture, it is obviously a very appropriate topic this season, as is also that of weeds. A full line of these can be found now in almost any district. As to insects, the speakers found great damage done to crops by ant-worm, and to some extent by what would appear to be the frit-fly. Recent rains have greatly improved the appearance of the crops in this section.

Messrs. D. A. Stewart, Pilot Mound, and George H. Greig, of FARMER'S ADVOCATE, Winnipeg, attended several Farmers' Institute meetings the last week in June. The meetings as a rule were not largely attended, but those present included many of the representative farmers from each locality, and marked interest was displayed in the subjects taken up. Meetings were held at Morris, Beausejour, Selkirk and Bird's Hill. Mr. Stewart at some of the meetings spoke on "Dairying," describing in detail the organization and work of the Fairplay Creamery near Pilot Mound, which is one of the most successful creameries in the Province. At other points Mr. Stewart spoke on tree planting for shelter belts and ornament, giving from his personal experience advice as to the best varieties and the best way of handling them. He strongly recommended the more general introduction of shelter belts and wind-breaks, not only for the protection of farm buildings, but in order to break the force of the winds and thus to lessen the evaporation of soil moisture and assist in preventing soil drifting.

Of the trees most highly recommended were the native maples, Russian poplars and native spruces.

Mr. Greig spoke on soil cultivation and grass, urging the necessity of deeper and better plowing, the advisability of better methods of cultivation to prevent drifting and the evaporation of soil moisture, and also strongly urged the necessity in all the older districts of the use of manure and of seeding down to grass in order to restore the root fiber which by constant cultivation had been worn out of the soil. At other points he took up the subject of "Noxious Weeds," dealing with the nature of plant growth, the names and characteristics, and best methods of eradicating the most troublesome varieties of weeds in the districts visited.

The New Insecticide.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your enquiry as to whether green arsenoid is superior to Paris green for the treatment of leaf-eating insects, I beg to say that up to the present I have not considered it wise to recommend any substitute for Paris green. This material is now so thoroughly well known by farmers and fruit-growers that there is no difficulty in getting them to use it upon trees and other crops liable to be attacked by foliage-eating insects. Green arsenoid is one of several compounds which have been lately introduced, and which certainly are valuable insecticides. They differ principally from Paris green in their chemical composition, the omission of acetic acid making it possible to produce them at a slightly lower figure without injuring their insecticidal qualities. I can quite understand that the makers of arsenoid poison might claim that this material is better than Paris green. It is slightly cheaper, and appears to remain in suspension a good deal longer than Paris green when mixed with water. It has, too, the bright green color of Paris green, which is a safeguard against it being mistaken for less dangerous compounds when left about by careless people. Green arsenoid is apparently very similar, if indeed it is not identical with arsenite of copper. Yours very truly,

J. FLETCHER, Entomologist and Botanist,
Central Experimental Farm.

Scaly Legs in Fowls.

This trouble is usually caused by the chicks or fowls sleeping in filthy quarters. It is also caused by a small parasite which works underneath the scale of the leg. I have seen fowls with scaly legs that were twice their natural size. If the legs of each fowl were anointed once each month with equal parts of sweet oil, kerosene oil, and alcohol, they would never become scaly, but would remain in a fine healthy condition. A good remedy is lard and kerosene oil, equal parts; add enough pulverized sulphur to make a paste, then apply this to the legs and bandage them, leaving the bandage on for a week. If at this time the scales are not all healed off, repeat the application of the same ointment, as it is a sure cure. The bandage may be sewed on, so that it cannot be scratched off by the patient.

Moose Jaw. H. B. S.

A Dressing for Ringworm.

There are cures without number for ringworm. A remedy which has been recently tried with success by one of our correspondents consisted of five parts each of lard and oil of tar and one part of flowers of sulphur. These were blended into an ointment and applied every three or four days. Always, however, after first washing the affected parts of the body with soft soap and tepid water, well rubbed in with a common dandy brush.